

Remarks

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the present application. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter.

Regarding the objection to the specification, it is believed that the above specification changes overcome this objection. No new matter has been added.

Regarding the objection to the drawings, it is submitted that the first and second conductive members and circuit board need not be expressly illustrated in the drawings as the claims do not affirmatively recite such elements. Claim 1 defines a body configured to be placed on a first conductive member and a contact portion configured to engage a second conductive member. By the clear wording of the claim, the first and second conductive members are not affirmatively recite and do not constitute claim limitations. Claim 11 defines the housing as being configured to be placed on a circuit board and to receive an electronic component. The circuit board and electronic component are not elements of claim 11, but instead are merely used to define the intended purpose of the housing. Thus, it is believed that the drawings correctly illustrate each claim element and no claim or drawing changes are needed.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the antecedent basis issue.

Claims 1-4, 7-9 and 11-18 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wang et al. (USP 6,296,495). Claims 5-6, 10 and 19-20 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (USP 6,296,495). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for reasons set forth hereafter.

Claim 1 defines an electrical contact having a body that is configured to be placed on a first conductive member and to move relative to the first conductive member along a first axis of motion. Claim 1 further recites a contact portion and a termination lead both joined with the contact body. The termination lead has an outer end configured to be fixed securely to the first conductive member, while the contact portion is configured to engage a different second

conductive member. The termination lead is movable with respect to the body to permit relative movement between the body and the first conductive member along the first axis of motion.

It is submitted that Wang fails to teach or suggest any such structure. Wang describes a contact 1 having a soldering base 10 for soldering the contact 1 to a circuit pad 80. An upper contact beam 21 upwardly and forwardly extends from a distal end 11 of the soldering base 10. The upper contact beam 21 has a free end 22 with a curved top portion for engagement with the plate like electrode 90 on a bottom face of a chip 91. In the outstanding office action, item 22 of Wang is referenced with respect to a contact portion, item 10 is referenced with respect to an "L shaped termination lead" and item 80 is referenced regarding a first conductive member. However, item 10 constitutes a solder base, item 22 constitutes a free end of a contact beam 21, and item 80 constitute a circuit board soldered to the solder base 10. The soldering base 10 is incapable of movement relative to the circuit pad 80 because the base 10 is soldered to the circuit pad 80.

Further, Wang's contact 1 does not include a termination lead. The solder base 10 is joined directly to the circuit board 80 without any intervening terminating lead. The solder base 10 is joined directly to the contact beam 21. The contact beam 21 cannot be properly interpreted to be a body of the contact. Claim 1 clearly recites a contact portion joined with a body, which is separate and distinct from a termination lead, also joined to the body. The contact portion is configured to engage a second conductive member, while the separate termination lead is configured to be fixed securely to the first conductive member. Hence, claim 1 is neither anticipated, nor rendered obvious, by Wang.

Claim 11 recites an electrical socket comprising a housing configured to be placed on a circuit board and configured to receive an electronic component. The socket includes a contact having a body securely held in the housing. The body extends along a longitudinal axis and joins a termination lead extending transverse from the longitudinal axis. The termination lead has an outer end configured to be fixedly secured to the circuit board. The termination lead flexes with respect to the body when the housing shifts with respect to the circuit board along the longitudinal axis. Wang teaches no such structure.

In Wang, the solder base 10 does not include a termination lead extending transverse from a longitudinal axis along which the solder base 10 extends. No structure within Wang's contact 1 is fixedly secured to the circuit board and flexed with respect to a body of the contact when a housing shifts with respect to the circuit board along the longitudinal axis of a body of the contact. The only moving structure of Wang's contact 1 is contact beam 21 which moves upward and downward. Hence, claim 11 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Wang.

Moreover, it is submitted that the additional features recited in the dependent claims are also neither taught nor suggested by Wang. Claim 2 further defines the body as extending parallel to the first axis of motion. The termination lead extends at an acute angle from the body and flexes about an arcuate path as the body moves along the first axis of motion. In Wang, only contact beam 21 moves. Contact beam 21 does not constitute a termination lead, does not extend in the claimed direction from the base 10, and does not flex in the claimed manner.

Claim 4 defines the body of the contact to include a central beam extending along a longitudinal axis with the termination lead extending laterally from the central beam along a surface of the first conductive member and at one of acute and right angles with respect to the longitudinal axis. The longitudinal axis is further defined to extend parallel to the first axis of motion. In Wang, the contact beam 21 flexes upward and downward toward and away from the circuit board, to which the base 10 is soldered.

Claim 5 defines the body to include a central beam extending along a longitudinal axis that is parallel to the first axis of motion. A plurality of termination leads extend laterally from opposite sides of the central beam in directions transverse to the longitudinal axis. The central beam and the termination leads are arranged in a common plane along the surface of the first conductive member. In Wang, the contact 1 exhibits no motion parallel to the longitudinal axis of the base 10. Contact 1 entirely lacks any termination leads, let alone a plurality of termination leads, extending laterally from opposite sides of a central beam in directions transverse to a longitudinal axis.

Claim 7 defines the body to include a central beam having a central slot cut therein to form sidewalls on opposite sides of the slot. The slot and sidewalls extend parallel to the

longitudinal axis of the central beam. The termination lead joins one of the sidewalls and extends transverse to the longitudinal axis. Again, Wang's contact 1 lacks any termination leads. In addition, neither the base 10, nor the contact beam 21, include any slots cut therein that form sidewalls on opposite sides of the slot.

Claim 10 defines the contact portion to include a plurality of contact beams interleaved with one another and extending toward one another from opposite ends of the body. Wang's contact 1 includes a single contact beam 21. There is no suggestion by Wang or otherwise offered in the outstanding office action that would've motivated a person of ordinary skill to include, within Wang's contact 1, a plurality of contact beams interleaved with one another and extending toward one another from opposite ends of the body of the contact. In the outstanding office action, official notice is given that such a feature is well-known. In response to this amendment, should the present rejection be maintained with respect to Wang, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide documentary evidence establishing the basis upon which official notice is taken.

The remaining dependent claims recite one or more of the features discussed above in similar language or with additional particularity. Thus, it is submitted that the remaining dependent claims are also neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Wang.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Small", written over a horizontal line.

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